

Sidelights On Press Ass'n Trip To Havana, Cuba

We have had so many requests to tell more about our recent visit to Havana, Cuba, with the Alabama Press Association that we are reproducing in this issue of the Clipper another account of the trip as written by a very talented writer, and which appeared in last Sunday's Advertiser. This is a splendidly written article and we are sure you will enjoy it.

Any mention of the trip, however, would not be complete unless we told our readers about the splendid service rendered the entire party by the A. C. L. Railroad. The special air-conditioned train on which the party made the long trip to Port Tampa is said to have been the finest the road has put on in many years. There were no dining cars, and the food and service measured above standard. The clean, cool and comfortable coaches made traveling a real pleasure. Officials of the Coast Line who accompanied the party saw that our every need was taken care of in grand style.

And then we had the pleasure of making the sea voyage on one of the finest steamships plying the tropical waters—the S. S. Florida. This ship is comparatively new, having been built in 1931, and is a beauty with modern fixtures and furnishings throughout, and officials spared no effort in making the voyage a most pleasant one. Quite a few of the party, especially women, got a touch of seasickness Sunday evening when the ship ran through the edge of a small storm. Many thought it was pretty rough, while the ship's crew merely laughed and said it never becomes rough until the dancing ceases. Mr. Austin Williamson, of the P. & O. Steamship Company, accompanied the party to the ship and was on hand at all times, giving information and showing courtesies which made each and every one deeply indebted to him.

Alabama, and especially members of the Alabama Press Association, rate pretty high among the people of the city of Havana. We were accorded entertainment that other tourists perhaps could not expect. Representatives of the Reporters Association were on hand at all hours of the day and night, and many special privileges were enjoyed through the channel. Of special interest to newspaper people was a visit to five or six newspaper plants in the city. Some of these are very modern in every detail and from appearances are managed much in the same way as large plants in the States.

The Cuban government recognizes the importance of tourist business and has a National Tourist Commission which looks after the entertainment of tourist parties. Mr. Juan Sabates, president of the Commission, together with others of his organization, are constantly in touch with officers of the Alabama Press Association, looking after the comfort and pleasure of the party.

Generally speaking, the people of Cuba cannot be surpassed for their courteousness and the prevailing language spoken, but in every story or shot at least one clerk can speak English. They are anxious for the tourist trade and will spend plenty of time trying to sell their wares. We did a little shopping but did not find many bargains. Many of the things that we thought would be cheap there can be bought much cheaper in the States. Most of the stores will charge higher prices because they think all Americans have plenty money. Even in buying a few souvenirs you have to be very careful.

We were told that there were 7,000 bars in the city of Havana. Even with that number and a big party of dry Alabamians, very few were imbued too freely. The manager of the hotel remarked to the president of the association that out of approximately 450 there was one drunk. Due apologies were offered, but the hotel man said it is known that he was congratulating

The press party such a good record, stating further that a well-known religious convention was held there a few years back with about as many in the party, and that at that time there were 19 drunks.

The city of Havana has 6,000 policemen on duty, so we were informed. Nearly all of them speak English as well as Spanish. They are very courteous and so far as we were able to learn kept perfect order in the city at all times. They have a traffic cop at practically every street crossing and how they manage the traffic is a mystery to us. Cars pass on either side, turn around in the middle of the street (if it is wide enough), cut across in front of another car, and in many instances make as much as fifty miles an hour in congested traffic, but they claim few accidents and we did not see many bent or bruised fenders or bumpers.

The taxis are open cars of seven passenger type, and are all old models, some dating back several years. A few late model cars are to be seen. In addition to the taxis, there are quite a number of motor buses. All of these are equipped with a Chevrolet chassis—regular 1½ ton capacity. These buses handle the passengers unless it happens to be at a crossing where there is a traffic signal light. The passenger usually catches on while it is moving. Speaking of traffic signals, the lights are operated by the cop and he changes the light as often as the occasion demands. On several occasions the writer saw the light change to green and before we could get across the street had changed to red.

The climate in Cuba is very delightful. The temperature averages 77 the year round. We did not suffer from heat at all, in fact it was much cooler there than at home. The houses do not have windows or screens because there are no flies, mosquitos, gnats or other insects on the island. All windows are provided with shutters which can be closed for the purpose of keeping out the rain. At the hotel there was always a delightful breeze.

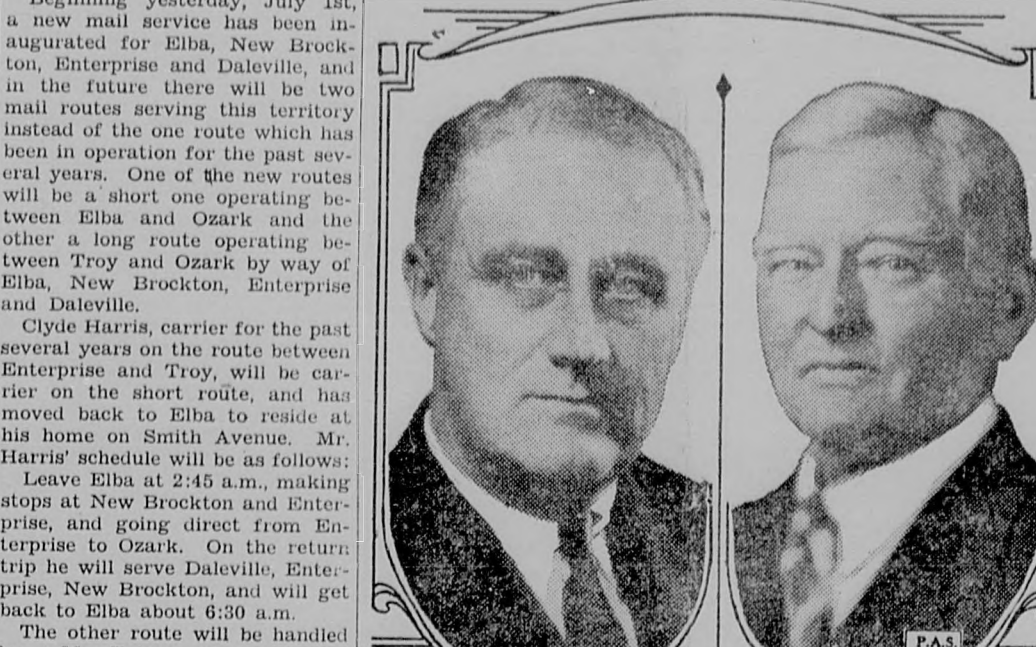
We did not inquire into the economic life of the republic but judging from the great crowds in the parks and on the streets at all times of the day, there must be many unemployed. Tourists are besieged at every step with dozens of beggars, most of them being small boys of varying colors. They sing in their native tongue, dance, and then ask in very plain English, "Give me a penny, please." We have never seen so many beggars of that age in any place, although we have visited many larger cities.

Many of the business establishments are as modern as can be found in any city. Practically all stores close their doors at 12:00 o'clock to 2:00 o'clock each day in order for the clerks to have a rest period. Town at six o'clock all stores close for the day. Of course this does not apply to restaurants and refreshment parlors.

In our travels we have visited many cities much larger than Havana, but we have not yet seen one where they had more natural beauty. The tropical gardens, referred to as the Hollywood of Cuba, is indeed a spot of beauty and enchantment. Not only at this spot, but throughout the city, the flowers and trees are all that a flower lover could wish for. There are parks galore and in each and every one of these, native plants and flowers grow in profusion. In all most every block will be found a monument erected to the memory of some great leader in the Cuban Republic. These monuments, or most of them, are carved out of choice marble and in quality of material, design, etc., will equal any to be found in any part of the world.

Alabamians felt just a little

Unanimous Choice Of Democrats



Roosevelt and Garner

Roosevelt and Garner Are Nominated By Acclamation In Democratic Convention

PHILADELPHIA, June 27.—Franklin Delano Roosevelt was re-nominated by acclamation at the Democratic National Convention at Philadelphia today.

Local postoffice employees do not express themselves as to the change, rather waiting until the new service has been given a thorough trial. It was announced, however, that out-going mail will be dispatched at the Elba office at the following hours: 10:00 a.m., 5:30 p.m., and 8:00 p.m.

It is also stated that hours of arrival and hours of dispatch may be slightly changed after the new schedules have been inaugurated.

PREACHING AT CHURCH OF CHRIST SUNDAY

We have been requested to announce that there will be preaching at the Elba Church of Christ next Sunday morning at 11:00 o'clock. Jas. C. Dixon, pastor, will be present for the service.

Friends of Reece Deal will be glad to know that he is resting nicely at Edge hospital in Troy where he underwent an operation Monday morning.

Mrs. Willie Michel returned from a sea of hammers after Governor Tom Berry of South Dakota moved that the rules be suspended and the nomination recorded by acclamation.

When the Arkansas Senator boomed out his "all those in favor will say aye," a roar, said in volume and echoing back from the high vaulted roof, answered him. Not a "no" was heard.

PHILADELPHIA, June 28.—The Democratic platform, bearing a hint that the party would go to the country with a constitutional amendment if the Supreme Court made it necessary, was adopted by the convention by acclamation last night.

The major planks of the platform are: A relief plank endorsing the present form of work aid administration by the Federal government. Republicans declared for State control.

A plank making no recommendations for a constitutional amendment at this time but saying the Supreme Court was not infallible and might make one necessary.

An assertion that the New Deal was not opposed to private ownership of utilities.

A civil service plank, to put all officials under the merit system except those involved in policy making.

The platform, born to the convention resolutions committee by the 121st men who had worked over it for a night and a day, already had been read in part to President Roosevelt over long distance telephone.

For Sunday and Monday, the celebrated story of Frances Hodgson Burnett's famous book, "Little Lord Fauntleroy," will be shown. The producer and star of the "Picture of 1935," "David Copperfield," now give you an even greater entertainment thrill—One of the most beautiful love stories ever told—re-created in a picture that will bring joy to millions.

Freddie Bartholomew, plays the part of "Little Lord Fauntleroy," with Dolores Costello, Barrymore, C. Aubrey Smith, Guy Kibbee, Mickey Rooney, Henry Stephenson, and Una O'Connor playing the important roles. Performances will start at 2 and 9 p.m. Sunday and 2 and 8 p.m. Monday.

Tuesday, bargain day, will bring the dashing Spanish star, Lope Velez, co-starring with Ian Hunter in "The Morals of Marcus." Next Wednesday and Thursday, Clark Gable, Jean Harlow and Myrna Loy, will be shown.

MR. J. L. YOUNG IS HONORED ON BIRTHDAY.—Mr. J. L. Young, one of Elba's oldest residents, was honored on June 28th with an enjoyable dinner, given at the home of his daughter, Mrs. J. D. Whitman. The occasion was in celebration of Mr. Young's seventy-third birthday anniversary.

At the noon hour a delectable dinner was spread under the shade of the trees in the yard. Invited to this happy occasion were the children and grandchildren of Mr. Young and his sister, Mrs. J. J. English, of our city.

MRS. L. S. RAHNER IS LUNCHEON HOSTESS.—Mrs. L. S. Rahner entertained at a luncheon on Friday at her home on Davis Street, complimenting several visitors.

A variety of summer flowers in the dining room lent a delightful background for the guests. The luncheon table was spread with lace, and for its centerpiece held a colorful bowl of matutinal flowers.

A four-course luncheon was served at twelve o'clock. Enjoying this lovely affair were Mrs. D. J. Brooks and guests Mrs. O. M. Gordon and Mrs. L. H. Jeter, of Brewton; Mrs. S. Boyd and guest, Mrs. D. W. Hardin, of Augusta, Ga.; Mrs. W. M. Ringolds and guest, Mrs. W. T. Hollingsworth, of Lafayette.

Each visitor was presented an attractive souvenir.

SUBSTITUTE CLERK-VILLAGE CARRIER EXAM. ANNOUNCED

The United States Civil Service Commission announces an open competitive examination for filling the position of Substitute Clerk-Village Carrier in the Post Office Service, Elba, Alabama, for which the receipt of applications closes July 6, 1936, and applications must be on file with the Manager, Fifth U. S. Civil Service District, New Post Office Bldg., Atlanta, Ga., on or before that date.

Applicants must have reached their eighteenth but not their forty-fifth birthday on the date of the examination, it was too much of a cut-and-dried affair to furnish a real good show.

REVELATION CLOSURES.—The revival meeting which started June 21st at the Elba Methodist Church, as to come to a close Wednesday night. Rev. J. R. Parker of Vicksburg, Ky., has been doing the preaching and his talented wife has been assisting with the choir and organ.

LIBERTY CHURCH.—Following the closing of the revival services at the Elba Methodist Church, on Wednesday night, Rev. and Mrs. J. R. Parker will go to Liberty Methodist Church where a revival meeting will start Thursday night of this week.

LAYMAN'S PROGRAM.—Layman's Day will be observed at Liberty Methodist Church Sunday, July 5. It will be an all-day affair with laymen from Elba having charge in the forenoon. Dinner will be served at the noon hour under the wide-spreading oaks in the churchyard. Fresh fruit services in the afternoon. Everybody is cordially invited to attend and partake of the good food.

BIG BROTHERS.—On account of the resignation of Judge J. A. Canby as teacher of the Big Brothers Sunday School Class, July 5, Mr. J. M. Rowe has been appointed as his successor. Mr. San Rowe has been re-elected as president of the class and Mr. S. S. Edmondson as assistant teacher. The Big Brothers meet each Sunday morning in the circuit court room. One object of the organization is to reach those who are not in the habit of attending church.

CATS FOR TOMS.—Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Brunson and children returned Monday from a two-weeks visit with relatives near Houston, Texas. On their return trip, they spent two days at the Texas Centennial Exposition at Dallas. They report a delightful trip and visit, but say that they experienced a lot of extremely hot and dusty weather. Mr. Brunson says he saw some of the so-called "cat" crops through Mississippi that he ever witnessed. He says the corn crop in Texas is practically burned up, but cotton is looking pretty well and that a good deal of it is in South Texas is near the picking stage.

When the Brunson family left for Texas, Mr. and Mrs. Olin Winston moved into the Brunson home to take care of the cows, chickens and cats. Perhaps it should be explained that cats were an important part of the Brunson household at the time the Winstons took charge. In a spirit of fun, Mr. Winston told the Brunson children that he intended to kill a cat-a-day while she was gone. He predicted better than he knew, for the whole "passel" of cats got hold of ant poison and were exterminated, with the exception of the old mother cat. Mr. Brunson says the cats are still plentiful. However, the Brunson children brought some of the famous Texas horned toads home with them, which, in a measure, will take the place of the missing felines.

HOT WEATHER.—The month of June, just closed, will go down in the records as one of the hottest in local history. Sunday and Monday were the peak-temperature days, thermometers registering above the century mark both days. With the exception of three or four, however, the nights have been quite cool. There was little rain during the month.

Mrs. Lacy Patterson seems to be doing nicely after a very serious operation at a Nashville, Tenn., hospital, where a tumor was removed from her brain. Her condition is much better than the doctor anticipated, and she is able to converse with people now. This news came from Prof. J. C. Dixon Tuesday was written Tuesday morning. Mrs. Patterson's many friends here will be glad to hear that she is improving and trust that she may soon be fully recovered.

Miss Nell Gardner Clark is attending a house party at the home of Miss Hilda Pope in Abbeville.

Weslimes W. T. Whitman, J. D. Whitman, Wiley Elar, Francis Blair and C. O. Miller were visitors to Montgomery the past week.

About People and Things By C. B. McDowell

Health Notes

—By You—
COUNTY HEALTH OFFICER

BEGIN THIS SUMMER PREPARING YOUR CHILD FOR SCHOOL

The pre-school age has been called the "neglected period." But, for the most part, it is not. Many parents recognize and fully discharge their responsibilities for proper training in health habits and adequate care during infancy and childhood.

Eighty per cent of all infants are born physically fit. Unfortunately, however, unfavorable conditions frequently develop between infancy and the school age. The result is that a large percent of children enter school with physical handicaps.

It is scarcely necessary to point out that it costs just as much to send a child through the same grade twice as it does to send two children through the grade once. Statistics show that there are more "repeaters" in the first grade than any other, and this is generally recognized as being largely due to physical untimeliness, which dulls the mind and keeps them from learning as they should.

Here are a few of the things that parents should know and appreciate:

1. That bad tonsils may account for enlarged cervical glands, frequent attacks of sore throat, or tonsillitis, and may produce heart trouble, or rheumatism, often called "growing pains."

2. That decayed teeth frequently cause children to chew their food insufficiently, resulting in insufficient nourishment, and, as a result, "gum boils" when absorbed into the blood may make a child tired or irritable, prevent gain in weight and reduce resistance to disease.

3. That defective eyesight, as such, is not always noticeable in small children but reveals itself in reddened and watery eyes, persistent headaches, strained posture, nausea, or irritability. As some one has playfully and somewhat humorously said: "No child can be optimistic with misty optics."

4. That poor posture may cause scoliosis, neck or limb pains, and backache.

5. That hearts impaired from acute illness cannot be replaced or repaired, but the doctor can advise ways to live and play within limitations, and to prevent further injury.

6. That imperfect hearing need not always be permanent; corrections are sometimes possible if treatment is begun early.

7. That overweight or underweight, while sometimes normal for certain families, usually indicates faulty nutrition or underlying defects, either of which may become a serious handicap in later life.

8. That mental or so-called "nervous defects," if present, may prove to be the greatest obstacles of all to the child. Most minor ones are easily corrected, however, and major ones can almost always be improved.

When your "Johnny" starts off to tackle his job this September, will he be equal to it? Not if his eyes have to strain to see black-board or book; not if his ears can hear his teacher only when she speaks "in a high voice;" not if his teeth ache from neglect, or his "tummy" suffers from a dozen combined causes; not if physical defects are dragging him down. Rather, he should start to school a veritable dynamo of energy. If he is perfectly normal he will.

Then school will not be a daily grind, something to be endured, and, if possible, but where he will make the most of his education.

Mrs. Bettie M. Boyd of Troy and Mrs. W. H. Edmondson of Enterprise were visitors to Elba Tuesday.

Perry Prescott of Greenville spent Sunday here with home folks.

Who Will Be Next? Better Be Safe Than Sorry

"On May 5th I lost my home which was insured with the Hartford through J. F. Brunson, Agent. My loss has been paid in full and Mr. Brunson gave me as good service as could be expected of any agent. I have rebuilt and reinsured with the Hartford."

—"W. T. MORRIS."

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